

MARVEL®



INFERNO™

X-MEN®

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241

FEB

02461

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

AT LAST!  
THE STARTLING  
SECRET OF  
**MADELYNE  
PRYOR!**

A SON FOR THE GOBLIN QUEEN!



# INFERNO

## PART THE SECOND

PICKING UP  
RIGHT WHERE  
WE LEFT OFF...

... (IN THE SECRET, HIGH-  
TECH CATACOMBS OF A  
NEBRASKA ORPHANAGE...)

YOU  
HAVE A  
NAME,  
CHUM?

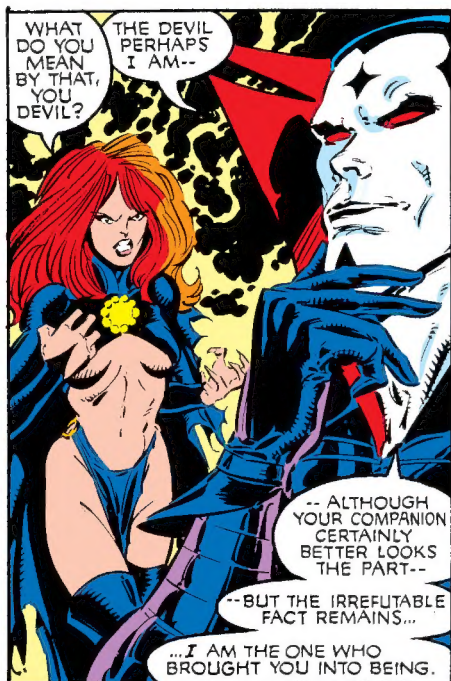
MOST  
REFER  
TO ME  
AS...

...**MR. SINISTER.**

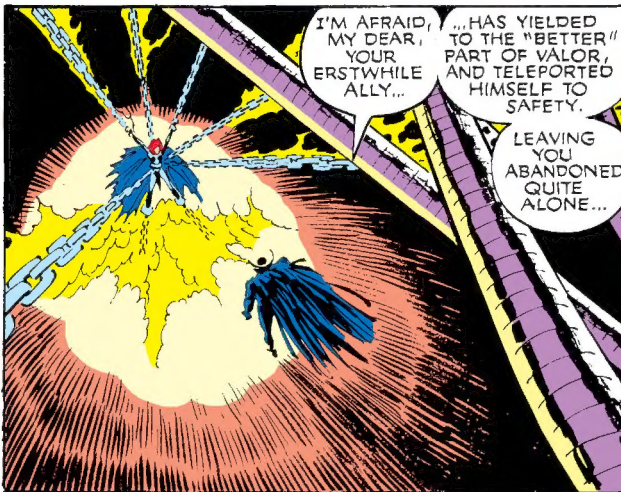
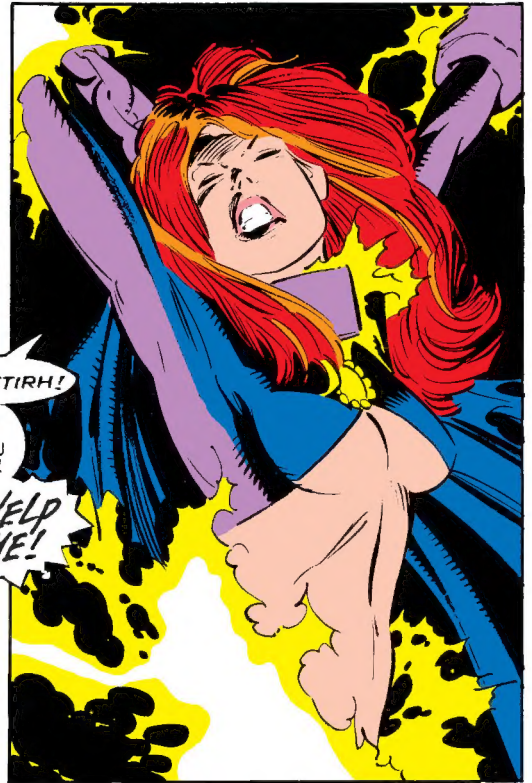
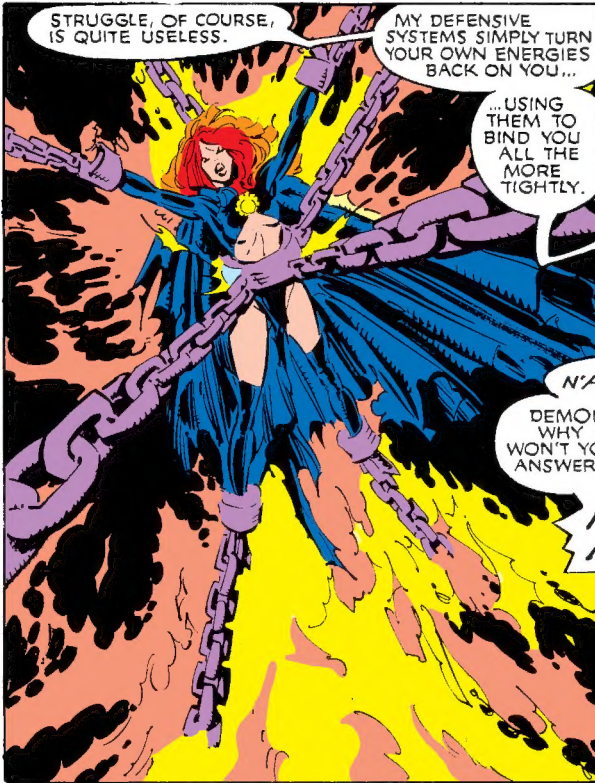
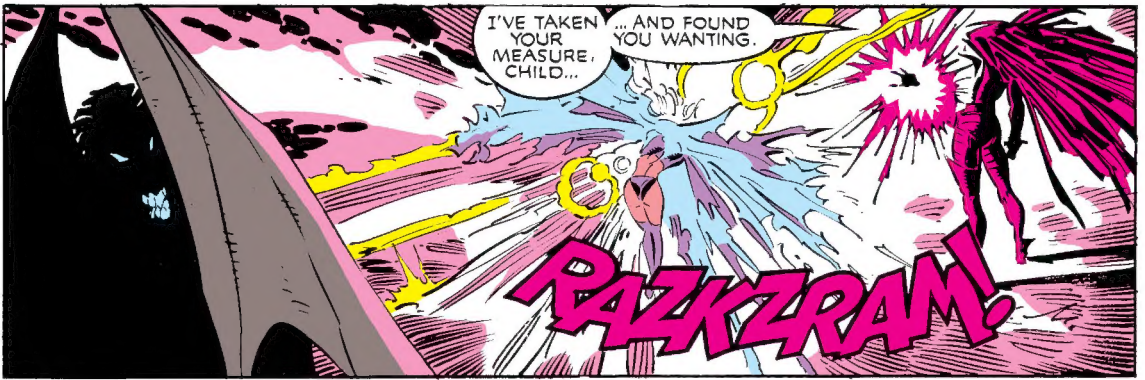
BUT YOU,  
MADELYNE  
PRYOR-- MY  
PRIDE, MY FIRST  
AND FOREMOST  
JOY-- MAY  
CALL ME...

**...FATHER.**











STAN LEE  
PRESENTS

# FAN THE FLAMES



CHRIS CLAREMONT, WRITER  
MARC SILVESTRI, PENCILER  
DAN GREEN, INKER  
TOM ORZECZOWSKI, LETTERER  
GLYNIS OLIVER, COLORIST  
BOB HARRAS, EDITOR  
TOM DeFALCO, TASKMASTER

MEANWHILE, HALF A CONTINENT  
TOWARDS A DAWN WHICH  
MAY NEVER COME (THOUGH NO  
ONE KNOWS THAT YET)...

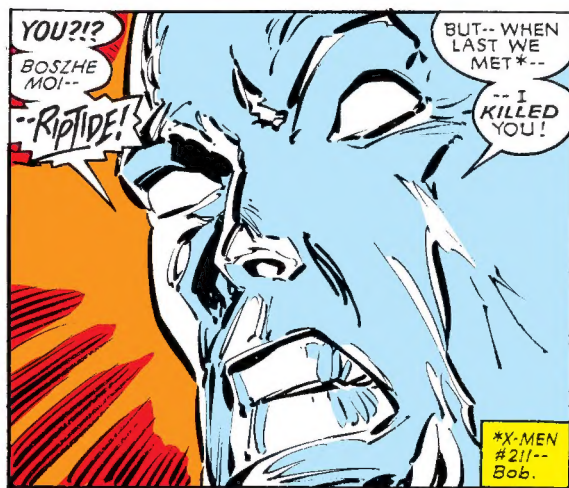
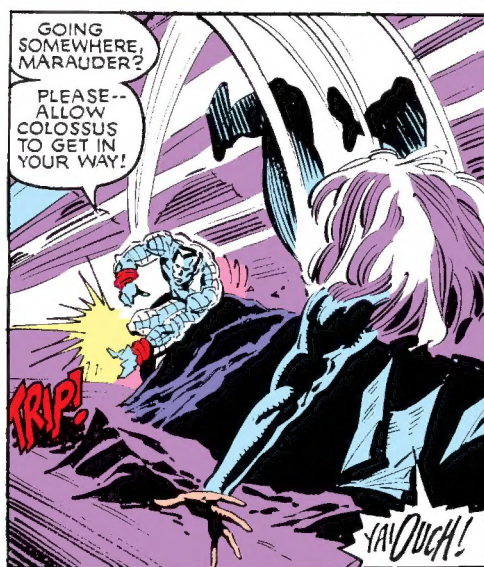
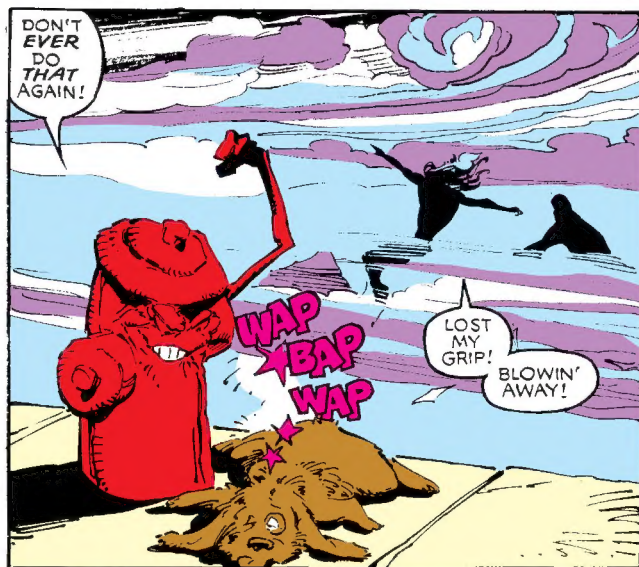
...THE UNCANNY  
X-MEN...

...CONTINUE THEIR HELTER-  
SKELTER BATTLE WITH  
SINISTER'S SHOCK TROOPS,  
THEIR ARCH-FOES, THE  
MARAUDERS...

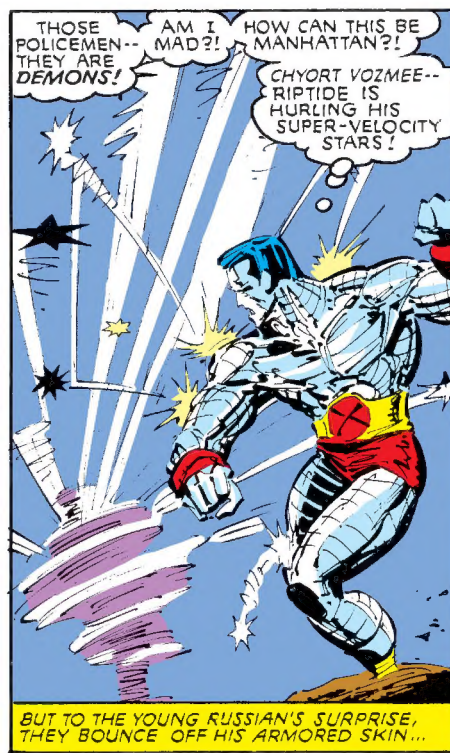
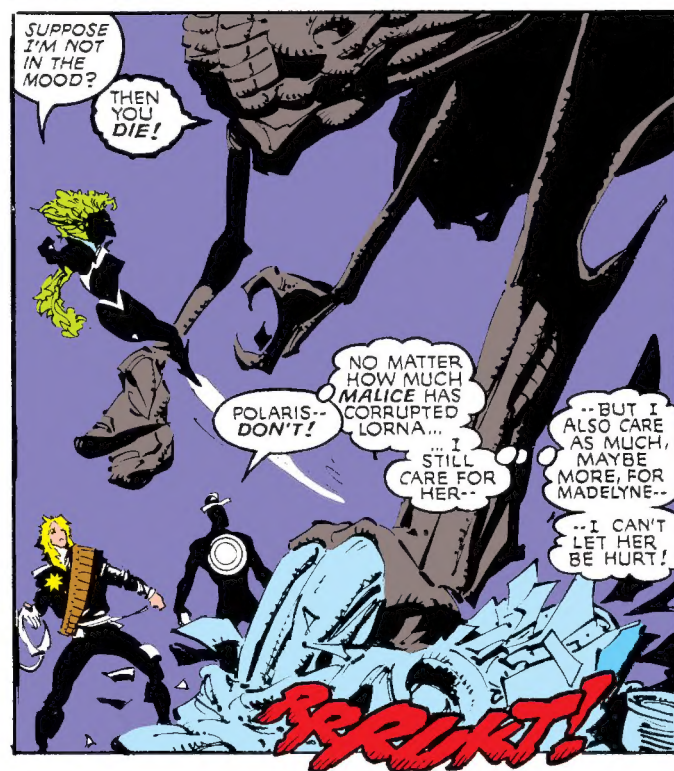
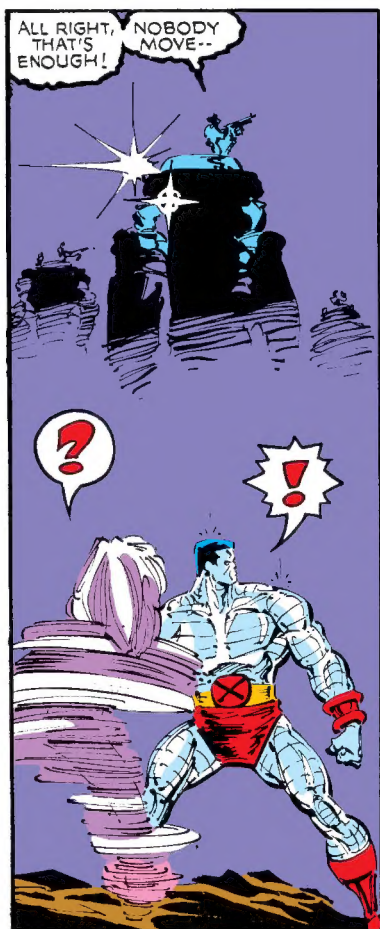
...AMIDST THE CONCRETE  
CANYONS OF A  
MANHATTAN THAT IS  
EVER MORE RAPIDLY  
TRANSFORMING INTO A  
CITY OUT OF NIGHTMARE!











BUT TO THE YOUNG RUSSIAN'S SURPRISE, THEY BOUNCE OFF HIS ARMORED SKIN...





...THE COPS  
AREN'T SO  
LUCKY.

CHUKA  
CHUKA  
CHUK



HOW CONVENIENTLY  
CONSIDERATE OF  
THE CITY...

...TO  
SEND METAL  
CRITTERS UP  
AGAINST...

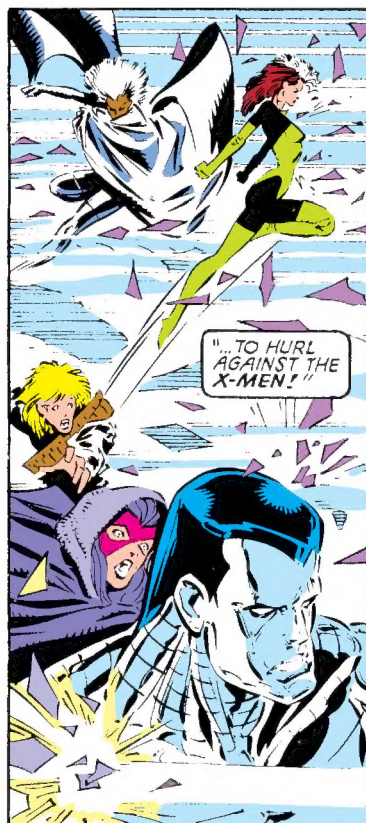
POW!

...THE  
MISTRESS OF  
MAGNETISM!



THE  
LEFTOVER  
BITS AND  
PIECES...

...MAKE SUCH  
DELIGHTFUL  
SHRAPNEL...



"...TO HURL  
AGAINST THE  
X-MEN!"



AND WHILE THE  
HEROES ARE NICE  
AN' DISTRACTED...

...I'LL USE MY  
VERTIGO  
POWER TO  
TURN THEIR  
WORLD  
UPSIDE-  
DOWN.

RATS-R-US  
PET SHOP

MAKE 'EM  
SO SICK  
AN' DIZZY...

I BET  
THEY'LL BE  
GLAD...

...TO HAVE US  
FINISH 'EM OFF.



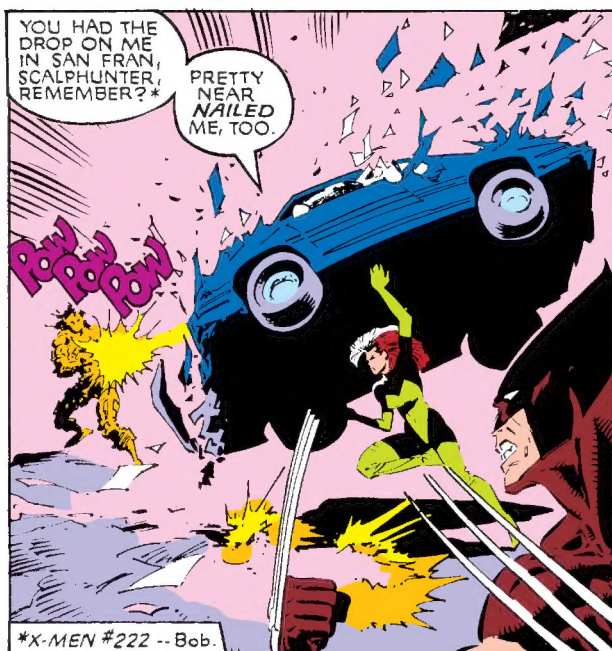
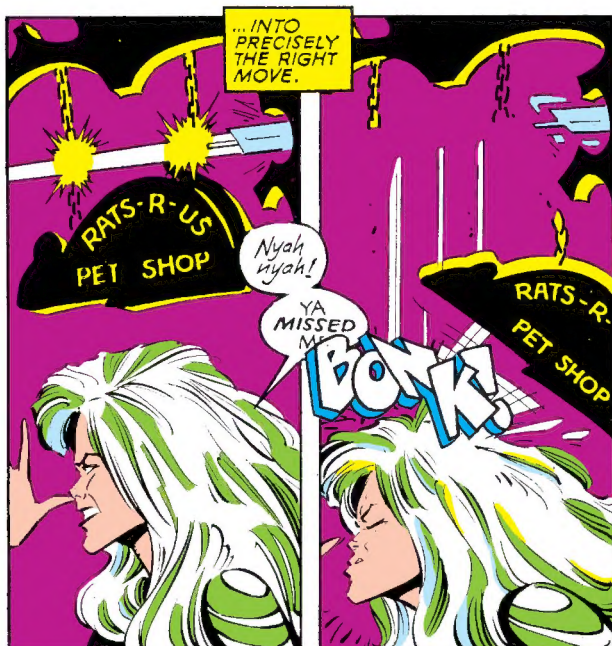
HOWEVER...

...EVEN WHILE  
LONGSHOT  
SUCCEUMBS...

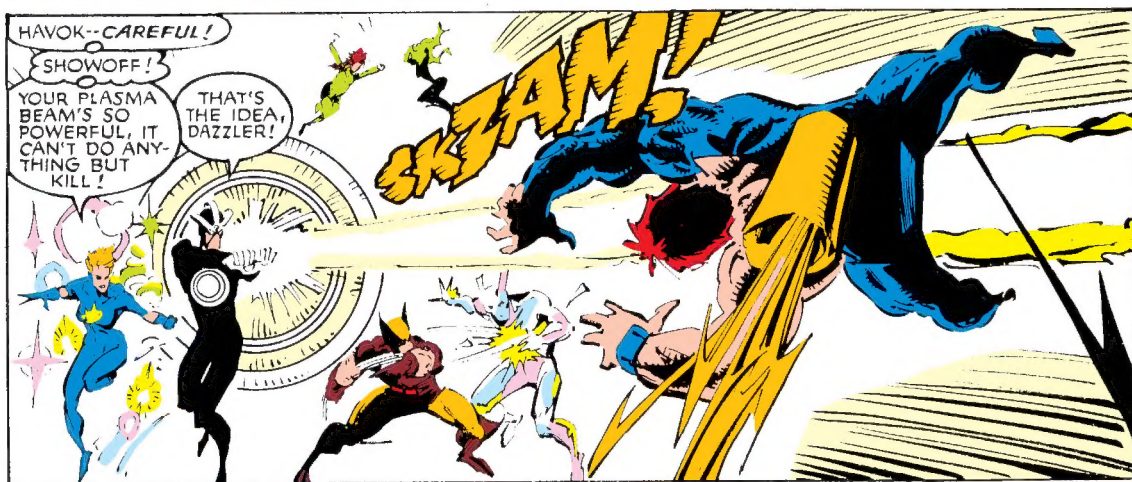
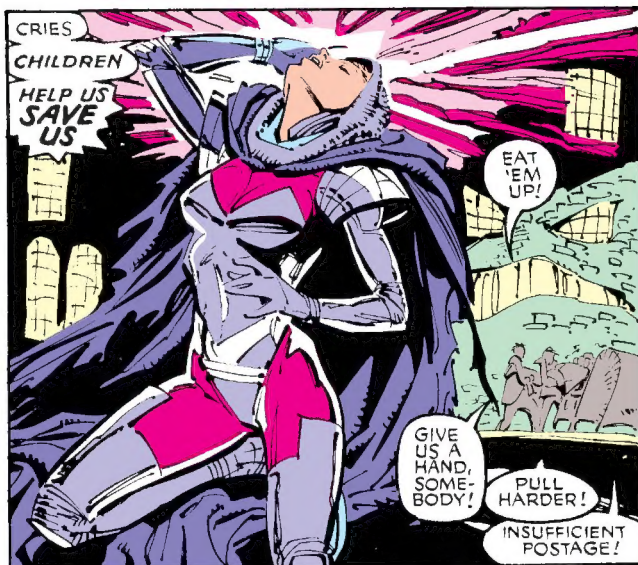
...HIS  
ELDRITCH  
LUCK...

...TURNS  
THIS  
BLIND,  
RANDOM  
THROW...

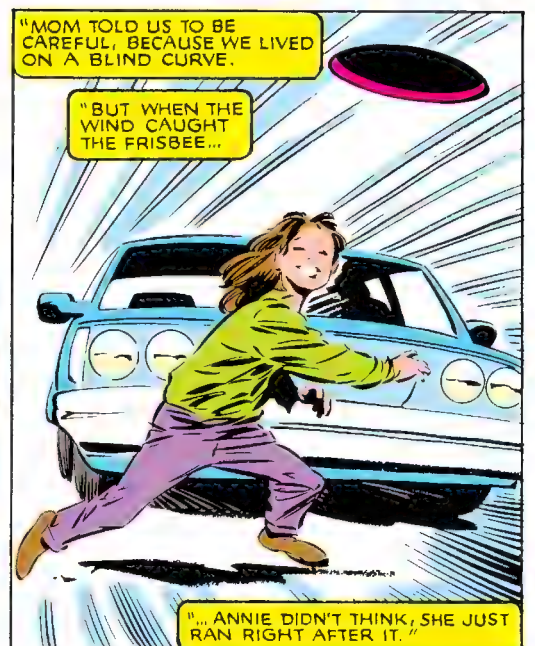
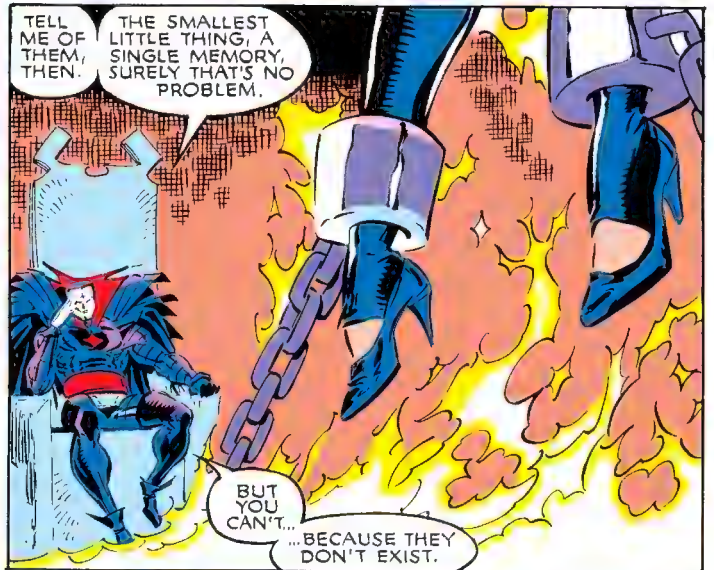
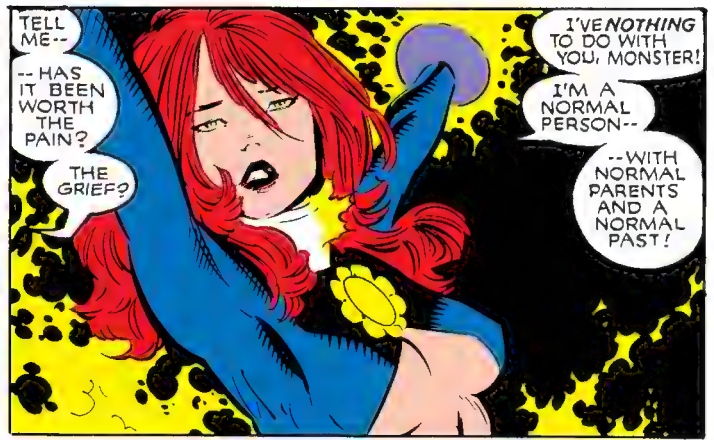




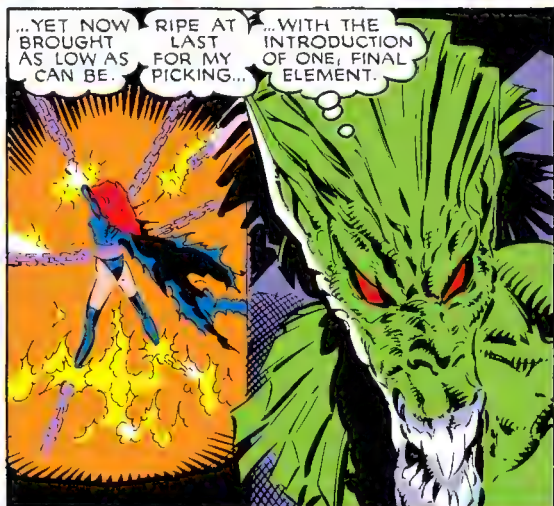
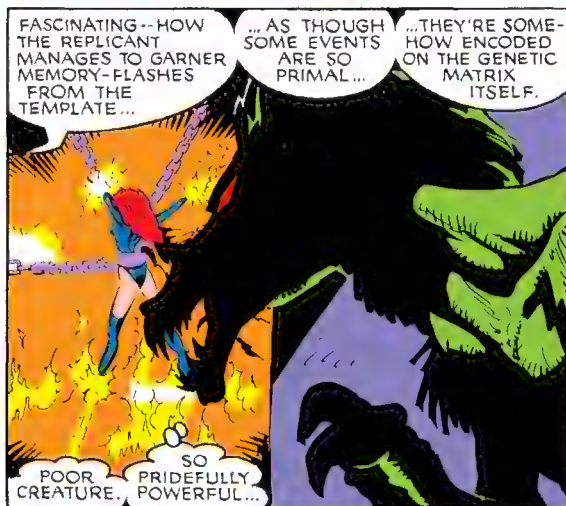
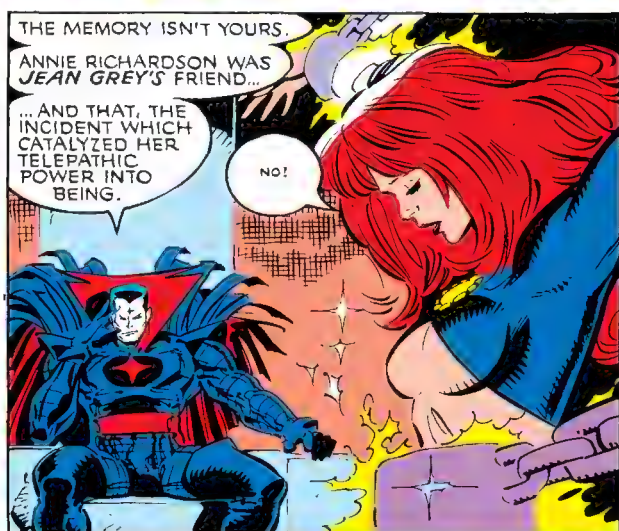
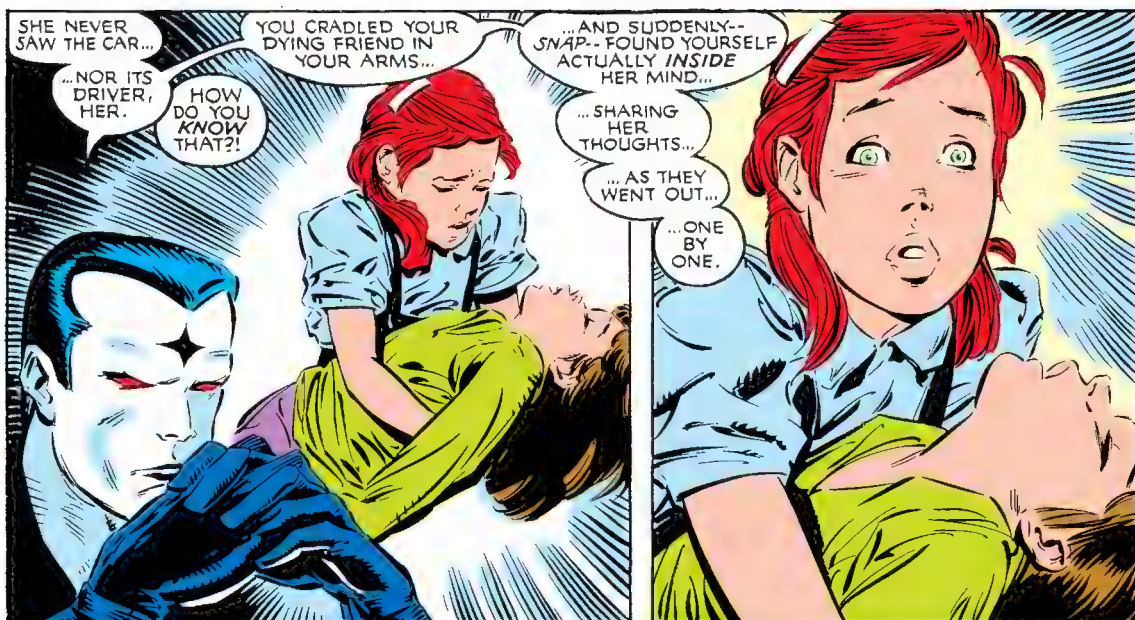




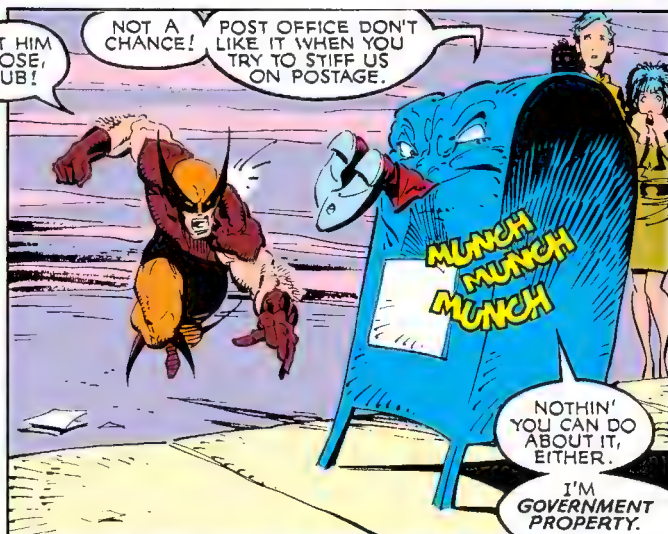
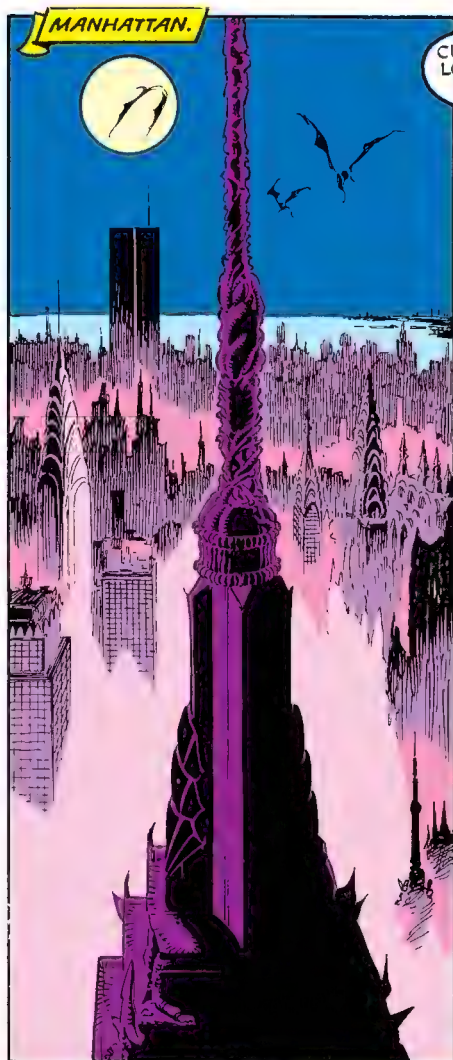




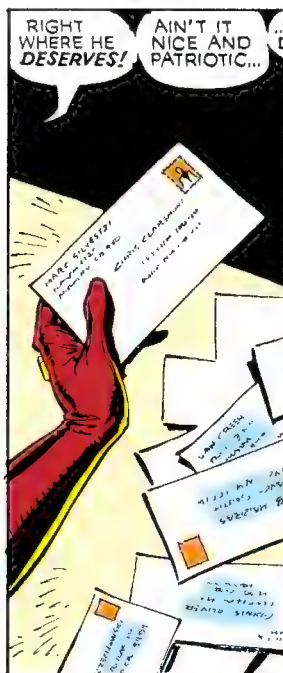












RIGHT WHERE HE DESERVES!

AIN'T IT NICE AND PATRIOTIC...

...THE WAY THAT DEADBEAT DECIDED TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY!

MAYBE NEXT TIME, IT'LL BE YOUR TURN.

HELP ME!  
HELPP ME!

USA 25

14



BLAST YOU--

--THAT'S A HUMAN BEING, NOT A THING!

CRACKOW!



THAT'S ONE POSTBOX WHO WON'T EAT ANY MORE OF ITS CUSTOMERS.

WAY TO GO, FELLA!

WISH I COULD DO THAT.

FRY 'EM ALL!

MY HERO!

...POST OFFICE...  
RAGE...  
I.R.S...  
HATE...



STORM, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND!

MAIL BOXES ATTACKING PEOPLE--

--POLICE DEMONS--

--MARAUDERS WE HAVE SLAIN...

...RISEN FROM THE DEAD--

--THIS IS MADNESS!



OF COURSE, "LITTLE BROTHER"--

--HOW ELSE WOULD YOU DESCRIBE LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY?



NEBRASKA.

"JEAN NEVER TOLD HER PARENTS SHE COULD READ MINDS. INSTEAD-- UNABLE TO SHUT OUT THE GROWING CACOPHONY OF THOUGHTS ASSAULTING HER--

"...SHE WITHDREW INTO HERSELF...

"IMMEDIATELY UPON LEARNING OF HER, I PLANNED TO ELIMINATE HER PARENTS AND HAVE HER RAISED HERE, AT MY ORPHANAGE, WHERE I KEPT THE OTHERS.

"BUT FATE SENT THEM TO CHARLES XAVIER, THEN A BUDDING AUTHORITY ON MUTANT GENETICS.

"XAVIER'S PIONEERING WORK WITH JEAN WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN LEADING HIM TO FORM THE X-MEN.

"BUT WHILE HE TREATED HER, I WAS BUSY...

"...TO CREATE A 'JEAN GREY' OF MY OWN.

YOU SHOULD FEEL PROUD, MADELYNE.

"...CUTTING HERSELF OFF AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM ALL HUMAN CONTACT.

"AND, UNKNOWN TO THE GREYS, BOTH MUTANT AND TELEPATH HIMSELF.

"...USING A BLOOD AND TISSUE SAMPLE OF THE GIRL THAT I'D PROCURED...

SHE WAS HIS PREMIER SUCCESS. YOU WERE MINE.

"SOME MUTANT ABILITIES MANIFEST THEMSELVES AT BIRTH, MOST AT PUBERTY.

"YOURS, INEXPLICABLY, DID NEITHER.

"I CONFESS, I WAS DISAPPOINTED. BITTERLY. ALL THAT TIME AND EFFORT, WASTED.

"BUT THEN, ONE NIGHT...

SCOTT!

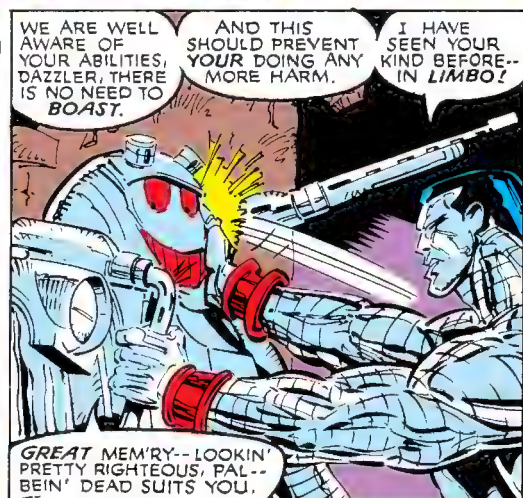
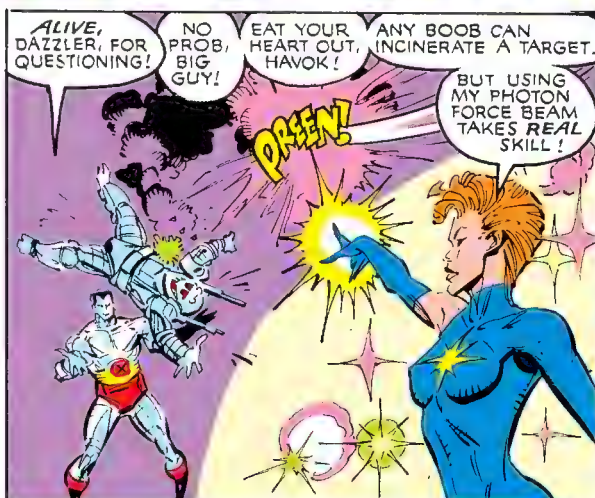
FIRE...

...LIFE INCARNATE...

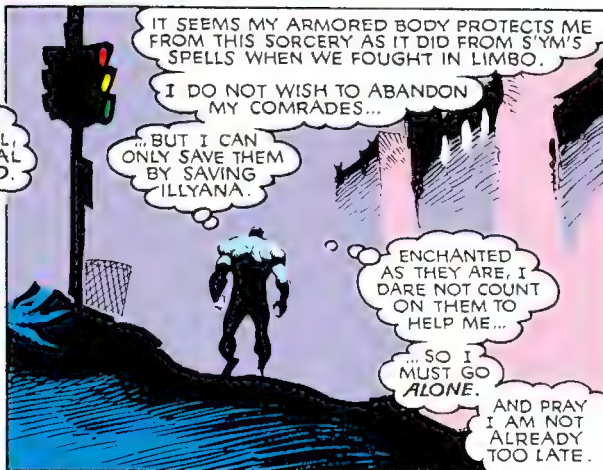
...NOW... FOREVER...

...PHOENIX...

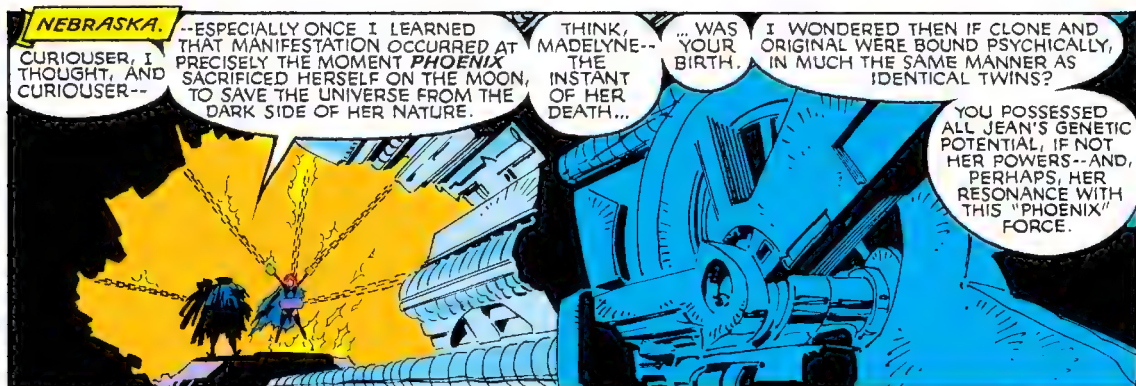












NEBRASKA.

CURIOUSER, I  
THOUGHT, AND  
CURIOUSER--

--ESPECIALLY ONCE I LEARNED  
THAT MANIFESTATION OCCURRED AT  
PRECISELY THE MOMENT **PHOENIX**  
SACRIFICED HERSELF ON THE MOON,  
TO SAVE THE UNIVERSE FROM THE  
DARK SIDE OF HER NATURE.

THINK, MADELYNE--  
THE  
INSTANT OF HER  
DEATH...

... WAS  
YOUR  
BIRTH.

I WONDERED THEN IF CLONE AND  
ORIGINAL WERE BOUND PSYCHICALLY,  
IN MUCH THE SAME MANNER AS  
IDENTICAL TWINS?

YOU POSSESSED  
ALL JEAN'S GENETIC  
POTENTIAL, IF NOT  
HER POWERS--AND,  
PERHAPS, HER  
RESONANCE WITH  
THIS "PHOENIX"  
FORCE.



IF COMBINED WITH  
SCOTT SUMMERS,  
THE PRODUCT OF  
SUCH A UNION  
SHOULD PROVE QUITE  
EXCEPTIONAL.

SO-- I PROVIDED  
YOU WITH AN  
APPROPRIATE "COVER"  
MEMORY...

...PLUS A  
CHARACTER  
SURE TO  
ATTRACT  
HIM...

...AND PLACED  
YOU WITH HIS  
GRANDPARENTS'  
AIRLINE IN  
ALASKA.

I KNEW,  
ONCE YOU  
MET--

-- AND, IF  
NECESSARY, I  
WAS PREPARED  
TO ENSURE  
YOU WOULD--

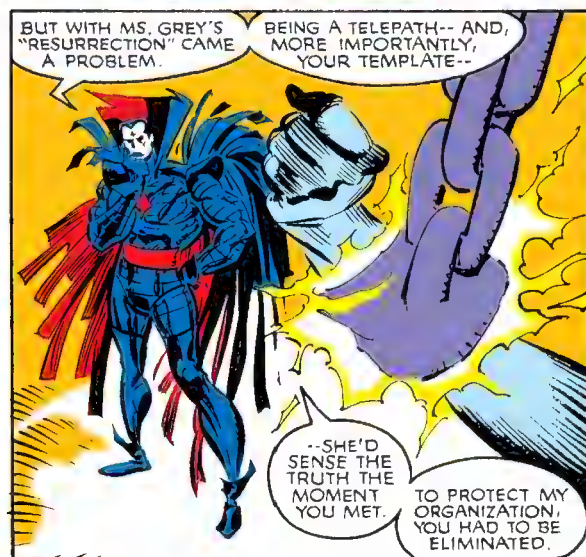
-- NATURE  
WOULD TAKE  
ITS INEVITABLE  
COURSE.



WHICH  
IT DID.

YOU  
USED  
ME!

CHILD,  
THAT'S WHY  
YOU WERE  
MADE.



BUT WITH MS. GREY'S  
"RESURRECTION" CAME  
A PROBLEM.

BEING A TELEPATH-- AND,  
MORE IMPORTANTLY,  
YOUR TEMPLATE--

-- SHE'D  
SENSE THE  
TRUTH THE  
MOMENT  
YOU MET.

TO PROTECT MY  
ORGANIZATION,  
YOU HAD TO BE  
ELIMINATED.



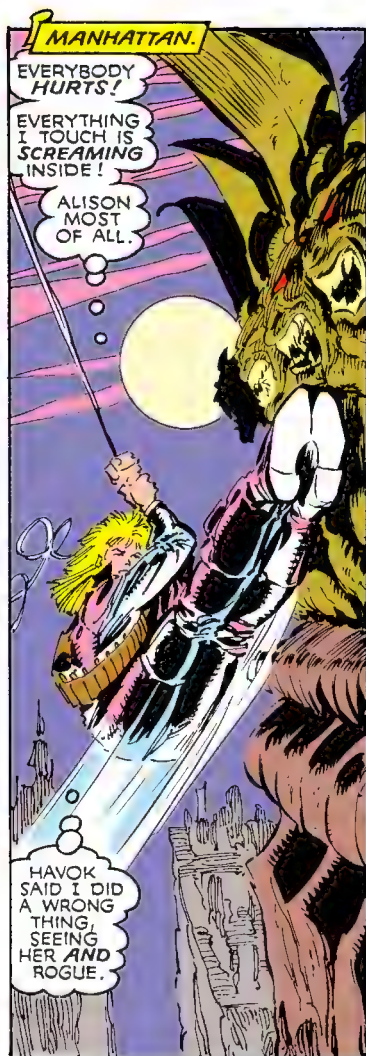
BY THAT STROKE,  
I'D GAIN YOUR  
BABY FOR  
MYSELF...

...WHILE COVERING MY  
TRACKS SO THOROUGHLY,  
SCOTT SUMMERS WOULD  
NEVER FIND ME.

BUT YOUR  
MARAUDERS...

...BOTCHED  
THE JOB.





EVERYBODY HURTS!

EVERYTHING I TOUCH IS SCREAMING INSIDE!

ALISON MOST OF ALL.

HAVOK SAID I DID A WRONG THING, SEEING HER AND ROGUE.



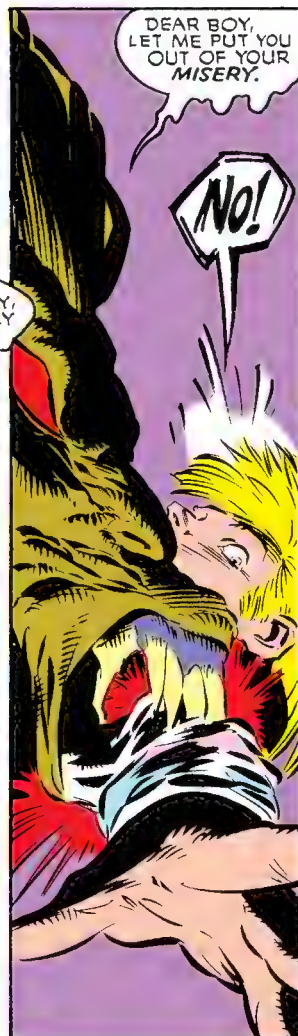
BUT CAN'T THERE BE ROOM IN MY HEARTS FOR MORE THAN A SINGLE PERSON?

WHAT HAVE WE HERE?!

NEVER HAVE I ESPIED A SOUL SO NOBLE, SO PURE...

OH!?!?

...SO TOTALLY, IRREVOCABLY TORN.



DEAR BOY, LET ME PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY.

No!



IS THAT THE LAST?

ALL SAVE POLARIS.

YOU SOUND DISAPPOINTED, DARLIN'S.

OVER TOO QUICK, WOLVIE.

THEY DIDN'T SUFFER NEARLY ENOUGH.

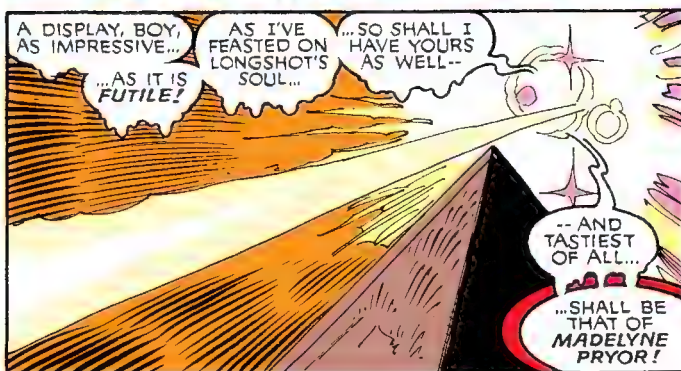
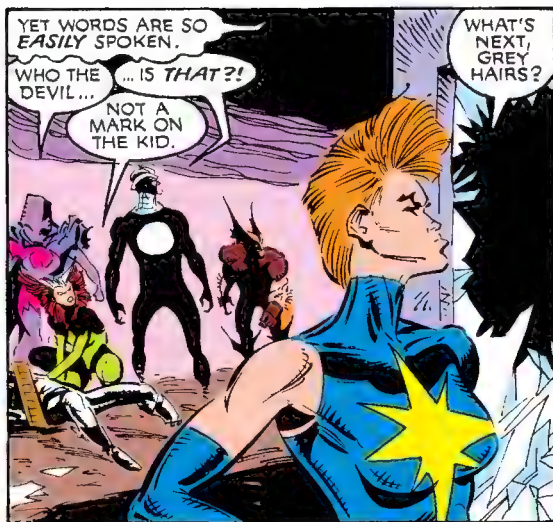
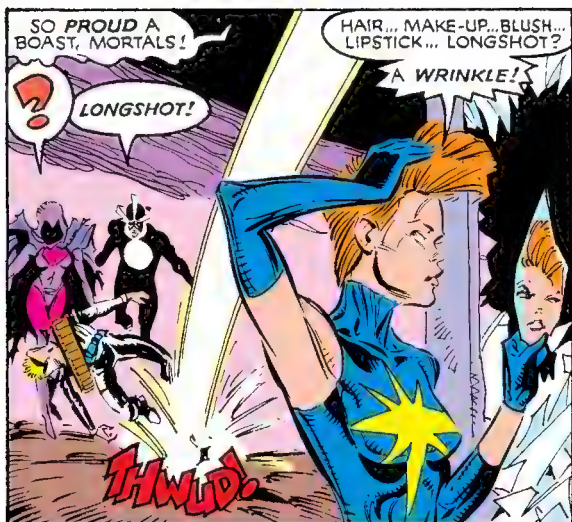


NO MATTER. THERE WILL BE OTHER FOES, BETTER BATTLES.

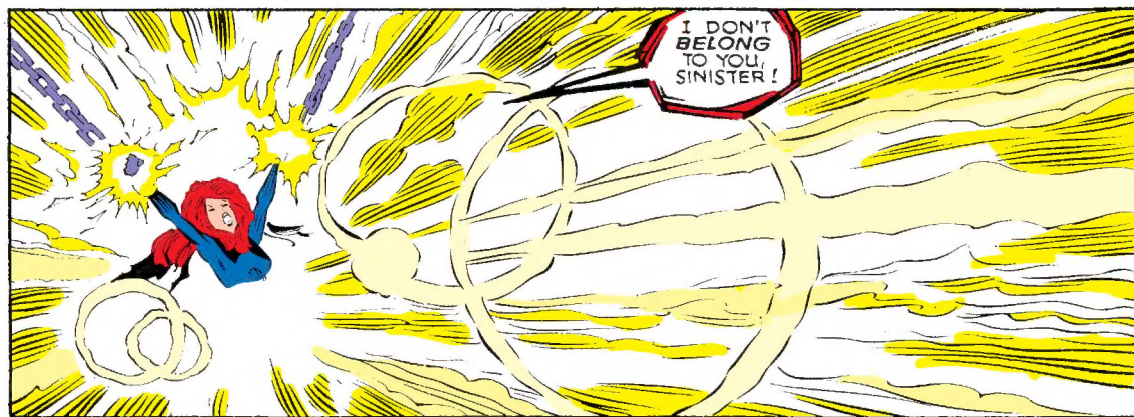
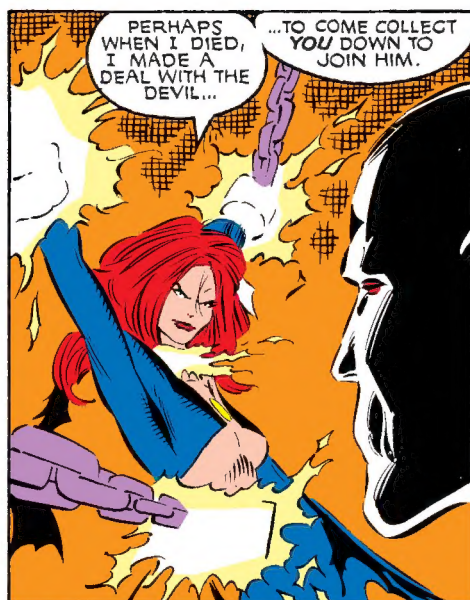
CAN'T WAIT! ANYBODY CROSSES THE X-MEN, THEY GET THEIR TICKET PUNCHED--

--PERMANENTLY!





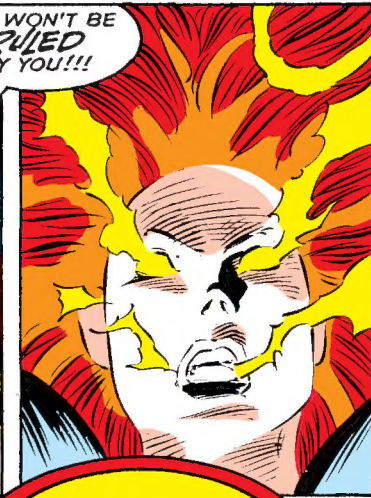




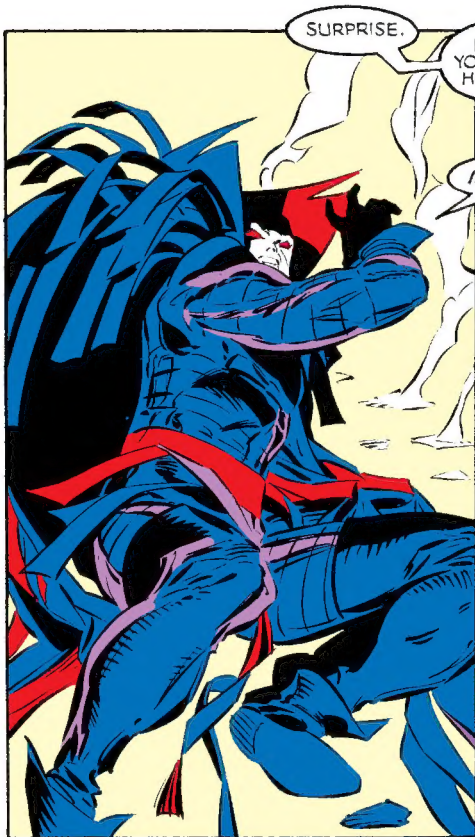




I WON'T BE  
**RULED**  
BY YOU!!!



I WON'T BE  
**CONDEMNED**  
BY YOU!!!

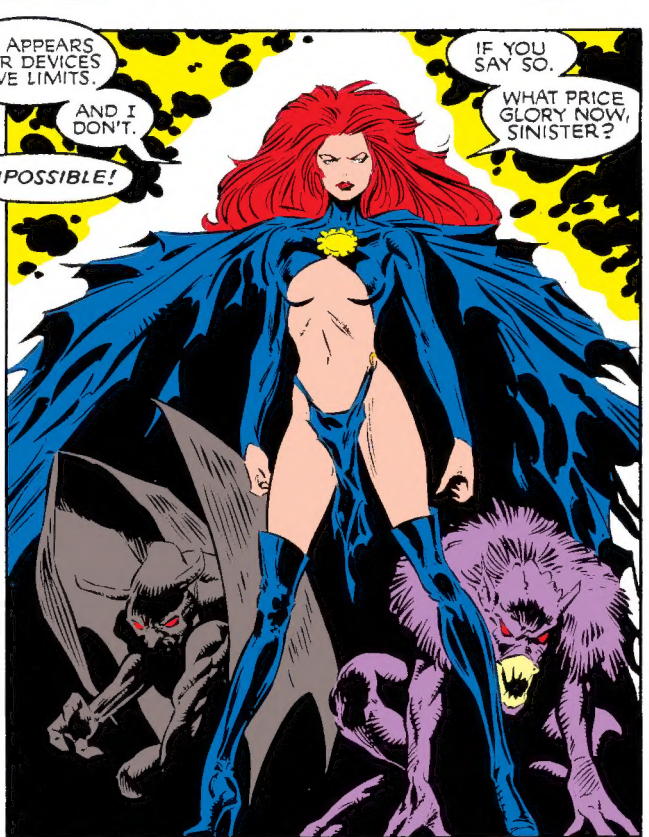


SURPRISE.

IT APPEARS  
YOUR DEVICES  
HAVE LIMITS.

AND I DON'T.

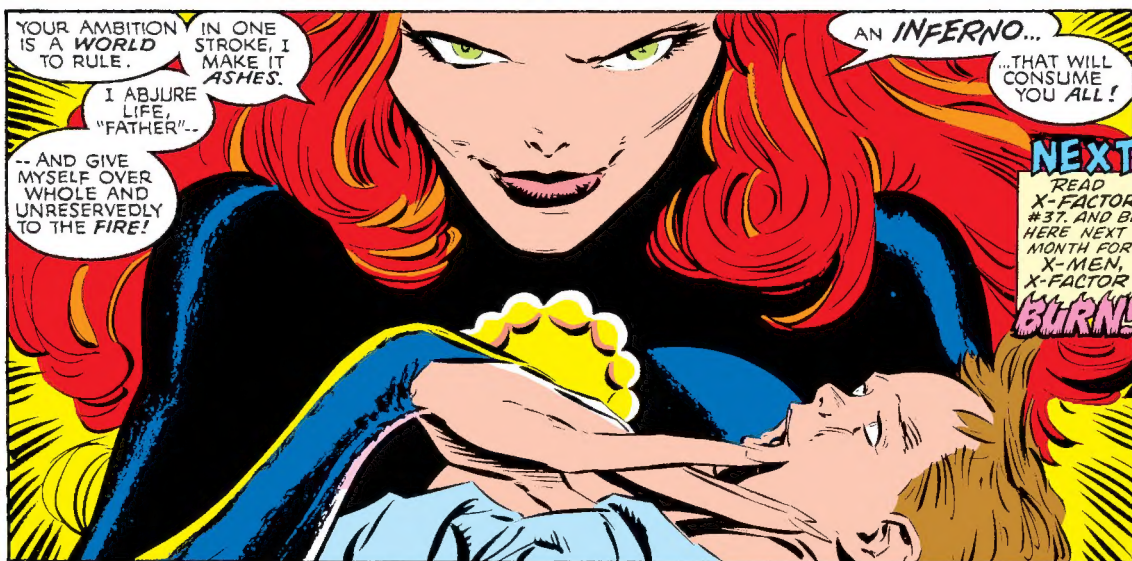
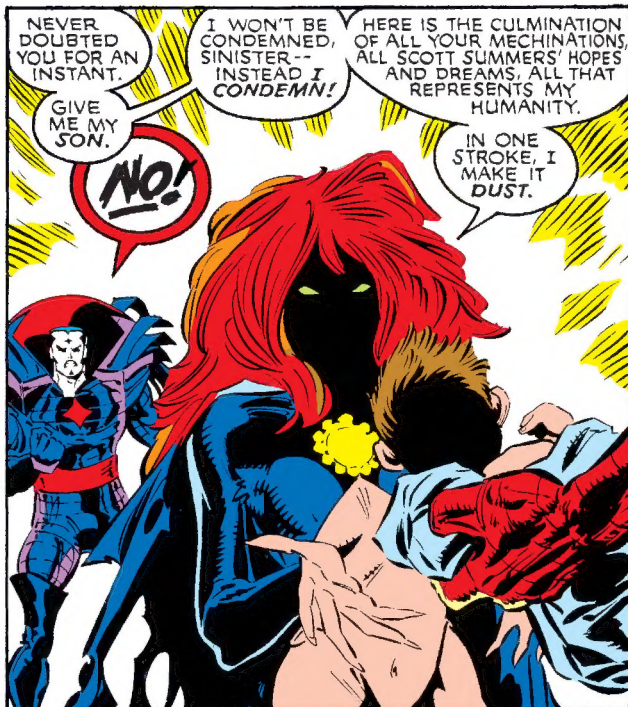
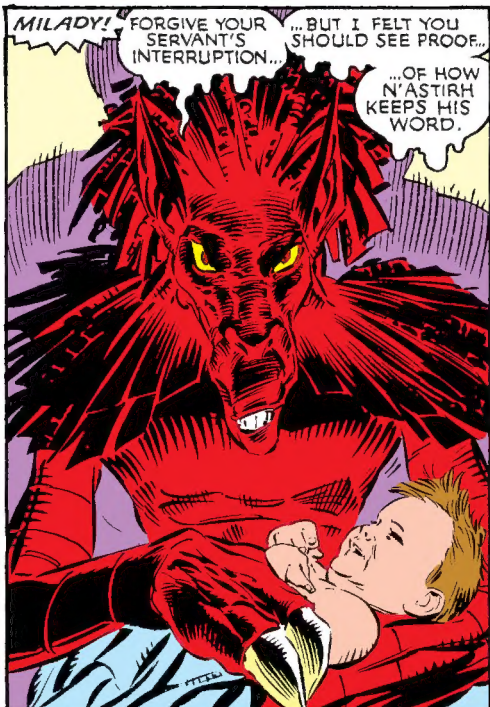
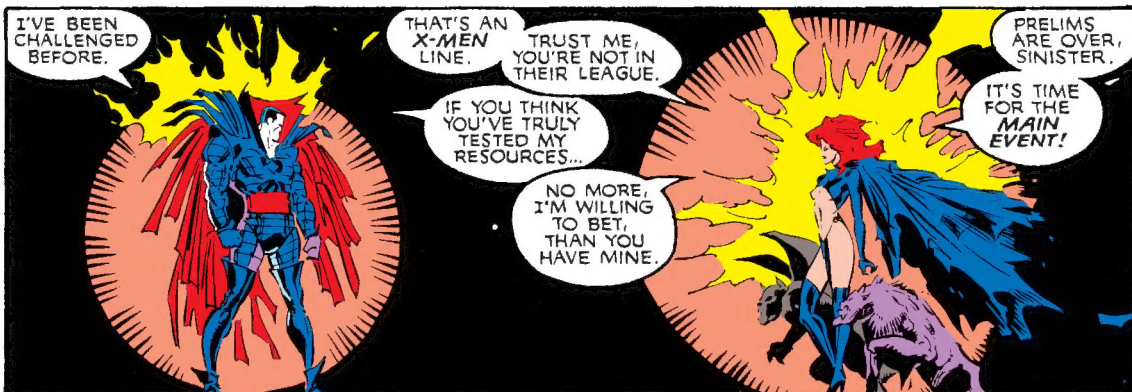
IMPOSSIBLE!



IF YOU  
SAY SO.

WHAT PRICE  
GLORY NOW,  
SINISTER?









MINUTEMEN

Bluntman